



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6631

January Session, 2005

* ____HB06631PH____032105____ *

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDHOOD OBESITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) Not later than January 1,
2 2006, the Commissioners of Insurance and Public Health shall make
3 available to the public information that identifies health insurance
4 policies issued pursuant to chapter 700c of the general statutes that
5 provide insurance policy benefits that promote the prevention of
6 obesity. Such information shall be updated regularly and shall be
7 available to the public on the web sites of the Insurance Department
8 and the Department of Public Health and through printed materials.

9 (b) Not later than January 1, 2006, the Commissioners of Insurance
10 and Public Health shall jointly submit a recommendation, in
11 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
12 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
13 matters relating to public health and to the select committee of the
14 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,
15 regarding how health insurance coverage may promote prevention of
16 obesity.

17 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) There shall be a State Childhood
18 Obesity Prevention Council consisting of the following members: (1)
19 The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the
20 secretary's designee, (2) the Commissioners of Agriculture, Education,

21 Insurance, Public Health and Social Services, or their designees, (3) the
22 cochairpersons of the Food Security Council, or their designees, (4) the
23 executive director of the Commission on Children, (5) two members
24 appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, one of
25 whom is a pediatrician and one of whom is a representative from a
26 nonprofit organization concerned with childhood hunger and obesity,
27 two members appointed by the minority leader of the House of
28 Representatives, one of whom is a director of food services for a school
29 system and who is not an employee of a food vendor and one of whom
30 is a representative of a university based program concerned with
31 obesity prevention, two members appointed by the president pro
32 tempore of the Senate, one of whom is a an expert in public health
33 education and outreach and one of whom is a public school physical
34 education teacher, one appointed by the minority leader of the Senate,
35 who is a public school nurse, and (6) two members appointed by the
36 Governor pursuant to section 4-1 of the general statutes one of whom
37 is an elected municipal chief official and one of whom is a youth
38 under the age of eighteen who has taken a leadership role in obesity
39 prevention issues. The Governor shall appoint a chairperson of the
40 council. All appointed members shall serve at the pleasure of their
41 appointing authority, but no longer than two years from the date of
42 their first appointment, unless reappointed to the council. The
43 Commissioners of Education and Public Health shall provide
44 administrative support to the council. The council shall develop a plan,
45 to begin from the effective date of this section, to reduce obesity
46 related health complications in children.

47 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) The plan developed
48 pursuant to section 2 of this act shall: (1) Identify existing and
49 necessary resources that address childhood obesity in the state, (2)
50 document and review anonymous group data on childhood obesity
51 state-wide and as related to HUSKY plan participants, including, but
52 not limited to, data related to the body mass index of children in the
53 state, (3) develop a state nutrition policy, (4) develop a public
54 education and outreach campaign concerning issues related to

55 childhood obesity, (5) develop and recommend a childhood obesity
56 reduction policies and initiatives for municipalities, schools, businesses
57 and philanthropic organizations, (6) coordinate ongoing evidenced-
58 based literature review through (A) identification of obesity prevalence
59 surveillance data and morbidity, and (B) summarization and updating
60 evidence-based best practices for the prevention and treatment of
61 childhood obesity, (7) identify and evaluate childhood obesity
62 reduction interventions, through literature, academic and nonprofit
63 organization review, (8) review the effectiveness of childhood obesity
64 pilot projects in the state and in other states, (9) in consultation with
65 the Commissioner of Transportation, develop and recommend
66 guidelines for municipalities to encourage local planning and zoning
67 that supports active lifestyles and encourages safe pedestrian and
68 bicycle routes, recreation and exercise, (10) in consultation with the
69 Commissioners of Education and Higher Education and the executive
70 director of the Connecticut Dietetic Association, develop a continuing
71 education program to improve nutrition and health education in
72 schools, and (11) make recommendations to state agencies regarding
73 physical activity plans and the awarding of grants to finance public
74 facilities that facilitate such plans.

75 (b) The council shall coordinate and serve as a central resource for
76 information regarding childhood obesity prevention policies and
77 initiatives in the state. The council may accept private and public
78 funding sources to implement the plan and provisions of this section.

79 (c) The council shall convene a student advisory subcommittee, in
80 consultation with the executive director of the Commission on
81 Children, to promote youth leadership and devise and implement
82 strategies to reduce obesity related health complications in children.

83 (d) Not later than January 1, 2006, the council shall submit the plan,
84 in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
85 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
86 matters relating to education, human services and public health and to
87 the select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of

- 88 matters relating to children, along with any recommendations for
89 legislation and funding necessary to implement the plan.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 2 technical changes were made for clarity and for consistency with the format for appointments.

KID *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R*

PH

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*